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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OIPE JC16 OCT 18 1999 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Walter et al. Art Unit: 1614

Serial No.: 09/292,862 Examiner:

Filed: April 16, 1999

Title: NOVEL MUTATIONS IN THE *FREAC3* GENE FOR DIAGNOSIS AND PROGNOSIS OF GLAUCOMA AND ANTERIOR SEGMENT DYSGENESIS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, kindly amend the application as follows.

In the Claims

Amend claim 7 and 15, as follows.

B1 Cont'd.

7. (Amended) A method of diagnosing a mammal for an increased likelihood of developing or having a developmental defect or a disease of the eye, said method comprising detecting the presence of a mutant FREAC3 polypeptide in said mammal, wherein the presence of said mutant FREAC3 polypeptide indicates that said mammal has a mutation in a FREAC3 gene, wherein the presence of said mutation is an indication that

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said mammal has an increased likelihood of developing a disease of the eye.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 1 or 7, wherein said developmental defect is a cardiac defect or an eye defect, wherein said eye defect is anterior segment dysgenesis.

Add the following new claims.

16. The method of claim 1 or claim 7, wherein said mammal is prenatal.--

17. The method of claim 1 or claim 7, wherein said mammal is a human.--

Support for the Amendments

Support for the amendments to claims 7 and 15, may be found, e.g., at page 3, lines 15 through 22, and at page 38, lines 9 through 10. Support for new claims 16 and 17 may be found, e.g., at page 6, lines 20-21. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Please apply any charges or any credits to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 15, 1999

Kristina Bieker-Brady, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 39,109

Clark & Elbing LLP
176 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: 617-428-0200
Facsimile: 617-428-7045

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